

In The Claims:

The claims of the application have been amended herein as set forth in the following marked up version of the claims:

1. (Twice Amended) A membrane eraser used for ophthalmic surgery, comprising:
a grip portion;
a rod shaped body having opposite first and second ends, said first end being attached to said grip portion, said second end extending away from said grip portion;
an elastic body having opposite proximal and distal ends and a hollow interior, said hollow interior at said proximal end receiving said second end of said rod shaped body, said distal end having a tapered tip extending away from said rod shaped body; and
a plurality of hard, fine-grains fixed on said tapered tip of said elastic body, said fine-grains being located in a range from an end portion of said tip, said fine-grains being configured for removal of membrane tissue on a retina of an individual.

2. (Cancelled without prejudice).

5. (Cancelled without prejudice).

6. (Cancelled without prejudice).

9. (Twice Amended) An ophthalmic treatment tool comprising:
a grip;
a rod shaped body having opposite first and second ends, said first end attached to said grip, said second end extending away from said grip;
an elastic body attached to said second end of said rod shaped body, said elastic body having a tapered tip extending away from said rod shaped body;

a plurality of hard, fine-grains fixed on said tapered tip of said elastic body, [said fine-grains having a diameter in a range of 3 μ m to 80 μ m] said fine-grains being located in a range from an end portion of said tip; and

said elastic body has a general cylindrical shape with opposite proximal and distal ends and a hollow interior, said proximal end is fitted onto said second end of said rod shaped body, said distal end is cut on a bevel forming said tapered tip.

12. (Twice Amended) An ophthalmic treatment tool comprising:

a grip;

a rod shaped body having opposite first and second ends, said first end attached to said grip, said second end having a slender line portion extending away from said grip;

an elastic body having a hollow, generally tubular shape with [openings at] opposite proximal and distal ends, said proximal end having an opening receiving said slender line portion therein, said second end being spaced from said slender line portion and extending to a distal end having a taper; and

a plurality of hard, [inorganic] fine-grains fixed on said distal end of said elastic body, said fine-grains being located in a range on said distal end portion.

21. (Amended) An ophthalmic membrane eraser comprising:

a tool having a length with opposite proximal and distal ends, a rigid portion of the tool adjacent the tool proximal end and an elastic, flexible tapered tip portion of the tool adjacent the tool distal end, the elastic portion of the tool is attached to the rigid portion of the tool and projects from the rigid portion of the tool for a portion of the length of the tool to the tool distal end, the elastic portion of the tool has a tapered tip at the tool distal end; and

a plurality of hard, fine-grains fixed to the elastic portion of tool, the fine-grains are fixed to the elastic portion of the tool only [at] located in a range from an end portion of the tapered tip

and are absent from a remainder of the elastic portion of the tool so as not to detract from the flexibility of the remainder of the elastic portion of the tool.

26. (New) A membrane eraser used for ophthalmic surgery, comprising:
a grip portion;
a rod shaped body attached to one end of said grip portion;
an elastic body fitted along a direction toward a front end of said rod shaped body to the
front end side thereof and having a tapered front tip; and,
a plurality of hard, inorganic fine-grains fixed on said tapered front tip of said elastic body
wherein said grains are located in a range from an end portion of said front tip for removal of
membrane tissue on a retina of an individual.

27. (New) A membrane eraser according to Claim 26, wherein said fine-grains are
located in a range of 0.5 mm to 3.0 mm.

28. (New) A membrane eraser according to Claim 27, wherein said tapered front tip
is hollow.

29. (New) A membrane eraser according to Claim 26, wherein said elastic body
comprises silicone rubber.

30. (New) A membrane eraser according to Claim 26, wherein said hard inorganic
fine-grains comprise grains having a range in diameter from 3 to 80 μm .

31. (New) A membrane eraser according to Claim 26, wherein said hard inorganic
fine-grains comprise diamond particles.